Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 186695 ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIA-06 ISO-00 NEA-10 SMI-01 DODE-00 EB-08 PM-05 /061 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:WPOBRIEN:LL
APPROVED BY IO/UNESCO:RCHEATER
ADVISORY COUNCIL:RGARVEY
SMITHSONIAN:PPERROT
CU/NEA:CANYASO
NEA/EGY:KHONAN
DOD/ISA/NESA:DGWILSON

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P 082327Z AUG 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA PRIORITY AMEMBASSY PARIS

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, MASS, AORG

SUBJECT: NAVAL ASSISTANCE FOR PHILAE TEMPLE PROJECT

REF: CAIRO 13011

1. DEPT ON JULY 15 REQUESTED ASSISTANCE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAVING NAVY OR OTHER BRANCH OF U.S. ARMED FORCES DETERMINE FEASIBILITY OF REMOVING BY HELICOPTER OR OTHER MEANS LOWER-LEVEL FOUNDATION STONES OF PHILAE TEMPLES BEFORE PUMPING OPERATIONS AT SITE ARE STOPPED AND NILE ONCE AGAIN COVERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEM. ARCHAEOLOGISTS HAVE DISCOVERED THAT STONES CONTAIN HITHERTO UNKNOWN INFORMATION CRITICAL TO HISTORY OF PHILAE TEMPLES WITH POSSIBILITY THAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MIGHT LIE BELOW THESE STONES. EQUIPMENT AT SITE IS NOT SUITABLE FOR REMOVAL OF THE STONES, AND U.S. EXPERTS ASSOCIATED WITH PHILAE PROJECT BELIEVE HELICOPTERS MIGHT BE ABLE ACCOMPLISH TASK.

- 2. PROPOSAL FOR DOD ASSISTANCE MADE THROUGH IO/UNESCO UPON INITIATIVE OF ROBERT GARVEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION, A MEMBER OF ARCHAEOLOGISTS' AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS' COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT FOR PHILAE TEMPLES. GARVEY INITIATIVE SECONDED BY PAUL PERROT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY MUSEUM PROGRAMS, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WHO WAS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO LAST SESSION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO SAVE NUBIAN MONUMENTS.
- 3. IF OPERATIONALLY FEASIBLE, EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD MOST LIKELY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PER DIEM OF HELICOPTER CREW AND FUEL USED DURING OPERATION, PRESUMBALY CHARGING COST TO PHILAE ACCOUNT. SUGGEST EMBASSY CONTACT OFFICIALS MINISTRY CULTURE (NUBIA CAMPAIGN) WHO FAMILIAR WITH PROPOSAL.
- 4. DEPT POUCHING BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR CAIRO AND ALEXANDRIA. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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